



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

April 23, 2012

Mark Durno, Chief
Emergency Response Section 1
U.S. EPA Region V
25089 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Re: Taylor Industrial Services, LLC Facility, Mt. Gilead Ohio

Dear Mr. Durno:

Ohio EPA requests your assistance in conducting a potential emergency removal action at the bankrupt and abandoned Taylor Industrial Services Facility (Taylor's Ind.) located at 820 W. Marion Rd., Mt. Gilead, Ohio (also formerly known as HPM Plant #2). On April 4th – 6th, Ohio EPA executed an Administrative Search Warrant to investigate, sample and inventory the abandoned waste and to determine the extent of environmental violations and health hazards. Upon execution of the warrant, Ohio EPA discovered more than 75 containers of 30 gallons or greater size (most 55 gallon) and hundreds of smaller containers (5 gallon pails, 1 gallon and 1 quart containers). Many have flammable labels and some are corrosive (sample results are pending). Stored outside the building are totes and poly tanks ranging between 250 to greater than 1,000 gallons that contain an oily aqueous mixture with unknown chemicals. Inside the facility are numerous large open pits that were formally under equipment and are now flooded with an unknown oily mixture. Plus the guard rails are no longer in place creating a safety hazard. Furthermore, Ohio EPA investigators found a previously unknown used oil storage UST that appears to have a direct connection through a three-tier gravity overflow system that discharges to an unpermitted outfall directly to waters of the State.

Ohio EPA has made various attempts to get the owner, Mr. Christopher Filos, to properly characterize and dispose of all waste onsite and has been unable to get a response. Security was maintained at the site until sometime in November or December of last year. Currently, no security is maintained and access to the facility is easily gained by vandals and thieves. It appears most of the wiring has already been stripped from within the building and evidence of gun casings and shells were found outside. In addition, the power has been shut off in the building for an unknown period of time. Therefore, the fire suppression system is in disrepair and leaking. If a fire were started, the FD would not be able to suppress and contain the fire. Due to the hazards and exposure threat present, the structure and contents would be allowed to burn presenting an exposure risk to the surrounding residential area.

Due to the hazards posed, Ohio EPA views this site as an immediate threat to the surrounding community and requests U.S. EPA's assistance. Randy Ohlemacher, DERR, Groveport is Ohio EPA's contact for this site and can be reached at (614) 836-8767. As always, please feel free to call me at (614) 836-8752 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kevin Clouse
Assistant Chief, Emergency Response & Special Investigations

Cc: Cindy Hafner, Chief, DERR
Randy Sheldon, DMWM, CDO
Kelly Smith, DMWM, CO
Randy Ohlemacher, DERR, GFO